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NONFERROUS ENTERPRISES CONTINUE MECHANIZATION

POLYMETALLIC COMBINE MECHANIZES -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 70, 5 Apr 50

Enterprises of the Leninogorsk Polymetallic Combine, Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, are continually adopting new technology for mechanizing labor-consuming processes. The Sokil'nyy and Leninogorsk mines are improving the system of working the deposits, have introduced wet drilling and irrigation of the mine workings, and large-capacity ventilators have been installed, with the result that the dustiness in the stopes has been sharply reduced.

The quantity of dust and gas in the shops of the lead plant has also been considerably reduced. Large-scale ventilating installations have been put in the water-jacket furnace shop, mixing yard, and in other shops. The work of covering the sintering machines with hermetically sealed housings is being completed and will considerably reduce the flow of gas into the shop.

The electric lighting in the underground mine shafts and in the surface shops has been stepped up several times. High poles with large searchlights have been set up to provide light for the intra-plant tracks and the loading and unloading areas.

The combine's central machine shop often has to machine large and heavy parts weighing several tons each, and also produces massive steel structures. Until recently, these parts had to be moved at a great expense of manpower, but now, the transport of heavy freight in the shop has been mechanized by the use of several mobile electric hoist cranes. These cranes have also been installed in the shops of the lead plant.

Conditions for the workers are constantly being improved. In the last 3 years, the combine spent 3,400,000 rubles on measures increasing the safety and improving working conditions of workers, and 1,600,000 rubles will be spent this year for this purpose. The miners and the metallurgists have available many advantages established for them by the government. The workday for the workers in the chief professions has been reduced to 6 hours, additional leave has been granted, and annual bonuses based on years of service and increased pensions, etc., are provided.

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Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 91, 1 May 50

Miners of the Leninogorsk Mine completed the 4-month mining plan ahead of schedule.

SOKOL'NYY MINE LAGS -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 69, 4 Apr 50

The Sokol'nyy Mine provides two thirds of the total ore mined in the Leninogorsk Polymetallic Combine, so that the slightest irregularity in the mine's operation is reflected in the work of the entire combine. Since July of last year, the mine has failed to meet its monthly production plans. The chief cause for this lag is the inefficient use of machinery. The mine has all conditions favorable to complete mechanization of mine development work and for extensive use of mechanized ore loading at the faces. However, many difficult operations are still done by hand, while machines lay idle in other sectors. The work done by a drilling machine in the stopes is 1.62 cubic meters instead of the planned $2\frac{1}{2}$ cubic meters. Productivity of a scraper conveyer in loading ore is 1-2 cubic meters per shift instead of 14.2 cubic meters. Ore-loading machines are utilized at only $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent of their capacity, and electric locomotives only 6 percent.

There is also a great deal of inefficiency in repairing machine equipment and in coordinating repair work with current mining operations. Often the newly renovated machines lie idle for long periods before being put to use.

The mine's administrators, chiefly Malkin, director, and Travnikov, chief engineer, have sanctioned the use of hand instead of machine methods, and have directed their best efforts, not toward improving the utilization of machine equipment, but rather toward increasing the personnel staff. In only 6 months, more than one million rubles in wages were paid to personnel not on the planned staff. Bogatov, director of the Leninogorsk Combine, seems content to let them have their way. For example, when the mine directors decided they needed an increase in rolling stock, it was granted them. The mine now has at least 250 more railroad cars than are actually needed, with the result that the surplus cars have clogged up all the major and secondary tracks. The sidings are filled with rolling stock in bad repair which the directors have failed to have reconditioned.

Much of the inadequate utilization of equipment at the mine is due to the failure to increase the qualifications of miners in a mass training program. The mine continually fails to meet the plan for worker training in Stakhanovite schools and study groups.

LEAD PLANT IMPROVES OPERATIONS -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 64, 26 Mar 50

The Leninogorsk Lead Plant, Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, is making an effort to discover new ways of increasing production. The plant decided to reprocess the waste metal from plant production and also the valuable dumped slags. This measure has already been highly successful.

The sinter shop has changed its methods of operation and is producing high-quality sinter. Labor productivity in the shop has gone from 100 percent at the beginning of March to the present 115 percent of the plan. The water-jacket furnace shop has also improved technology. Working with an increased blast in the furnaces has resulted in a good melt of the charge. The planned capacity of the furnaces has been exceeded, and the melt of the charge per square meter of cross section at the tuyeres exceeds the norm. Labor productivity in the refining shop for March is 125 percent of the norm. These improvements helped the plant to overcome the February backlog and to increase its output of lead.

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ZINC PLANT TOPS NORMS -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 63, 2 Apr 50

The Ust'-Kamenogorsk Zinc Plant, Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, exceeded the March plan and all its shops are now exceeding the daily plans, with the electrolytic shop taking the lead. The plant's workers have pledged to complete 11,000 square meters of housing throughout 1950.

MANGANESE MINES MEET PLANS -- Pravda Ukrainy, No 97, 23 Apr 50

Chiatura miners of the "Chiaturmarganets" Trust, Georgian SSR, are daily fulfilling the manganese-mining norms by 110 or more percent. New stopes were opened recently in the Mine Administration imeni Dimitrov. A suspension cableway erected to the concentration plant has considerably improved ore-transport conditions.

Zarya Vostoka, No 80, 18 Apr 50

The Chiatura Mine imeni Lenin which was lagging at the beginning of the year has since regained its leadership in the trust and has exceeded the March plan, with a continued increase in manganese output.

Krasnaya Zvezda, No 102, 29 Apr 50

On 28 April, the Nikopol'-Marganets Trust, Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, completed the April plan for output and shipment of manganese concentrate to metallurgical plants in the country.

BAUXITE MINING UP -- Krasnaya Zvezda, No 80, 4 Apr 50

In March, miners of the Severoural'sk Bauxite Mines, Sverdlovsk Oblast, increased considerably the output of bauxite. The increase was due mainly to the mechanization of labor-consuming processes.

CHROMITE MINERS TOP SCHEDULE -- Kazakhstanskaya Rayon, No 81, 20 Apr 50

Miners of the Donskiye Chromite Mines, Khrom-Tau, Aktyubinsk Oblast, completed the 4-month plan for chromite ore mining ahead of schedule.

LEADING ENTERPRISES HONORED -- Kommunist Tadzhikistana, No 85, 29 Apr 50

The Council of Ministers Tadzhik SSR has awarded the Transferable Red Banner to the Lyakkan Mine Administration for exceeding the first-quarter plan for gross production by 29 percent, for output of production in quantity by 20 percent, and for increasing labor productivity by 33.3 percent. The award was based on performance in a first-quarter competition among Union enterprises located in the Tadzhik SSR.

Kommunist Tadzhikistana, No 86, 30 Apr 50

According to a report by the Statistics Administration Tadzhik SSR on completion of the first-quarter plan in the republic, the Lyakkan Mine Administration fulfilled the first-quarter gross production plan 129 percent. The administration's performance in the first quarter was 64 percent of that of the first quarter 1949. The Chorukh-Dayron Mine Administration completed 59 percent of the first-quarter 1950 gross-production plan, and its performance in the first quarter was 66 percent of the same period in 1949.

Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 73, 9 Apr 50

Large numbers of workers, engineers, and technicians of the "Kazzoloto" (Kazakhstan Gold) Trust have been awarded orders and medals on the basis of their years of service and excellent work. The Danilovka Mine is one of the enterprises of this trust and is located near Stepnyak, Akmolinsk Oblast.

Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 90, 30 Apr 50

Miners of the Belousovka Mine, Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast, have been doing well in the pre-May Day drive, fulfilling all daily plans on schedule.

Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 86, 30 Apr 50

The Transferable Red Banner of the Council of Ministers Kirgiz SSR and the TsK KP(b) Kirgiziya has been awarded permanently to the Combine imeni Frunze, Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry, for having the best record in meeting the 1949 plan among mine industry enterprises.

Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 66, 2 Apr 50

Certain workers of the Chauvay Mine Administration, the Khaydarkan Combine, and the Combine imeni Frunze have been awarded orders and medals by ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR for their many years of service and outstanding work in the metallurgical industry.

FIND NEW ANTIMONY DEPOSIT -- Vokrug Sveta, No 6, Jun 47

A geological prospecting party, working in the winter of 1947 at a height of 3,500 meters above sea level on the northern slopes of the Alay Range in the Kirgiz SSR, discovered a new antimony deposit with a high metal content in the ore. The geologists plan more extensive work this summer. Preliminary data indicate the possibility of finding new ore deposits in the vicinity of the Abshirskoye antimony deposit.

LENINGRAD PROCESSING PLANTS MODERNIZE -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 83, 7 Apr 50

The Leningrad Nonferrous Metal-Processing Plant imeni Voroshilov (director, F. Malenok) produces foil made of nonferrous alloys which is used for heat insulation of all-metal railroad passenger cars, heavy-duty condensers, and high-grade instruments. The foil is ten times thinner than cigarette paper and its production is rather difficult; it starts with an ingot weighing more than 100 kilograms which must be rolled through a number of rolls without any break. A year ago, foil production at the plant was run by an outdated process, with almost all the work in casting done by hand. The metal was smelted in electric soaking pits and reveraboratory furnaces, after which the workers hand-poured the metal from crucibles into cast-iron molds, and then transported them by hand. The process of tapping one 3-ton furnace melt took 3-4 hours. Holes often formed in the metal during rolling. Last year, under the direction of Lebedev, the plant's chief mechanical engineer, a semi-continuous casting machine, a chlorine installation, and two electric bridge cranes were installed in the foundry shop. At present, 70 percent of all ingots in the plant are produced by the new and improved method.

In addition to the adoption of new technology in the foundry shop, a mechanized conveyer table for hot rolling was put into operation, thus making it possible for the plant to release large numbers of workers for work in other sections and to increase labor productivity and production quality. At present, the plant is producing 95 percent high-quality goods as compared with only 20 percent a year ago. In adopting new technology, the plant concluded 13 agreements with scientific research institutes, of which the most helpful was the All-Union Aluminum and Magnesium Institute. Professor Gagen-Torn and Candidate in Technical Sciences Sergeyev were of particularly great assistance.

Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 83, 26 Apr 50

The pipe-rolling shop of the Leningrad "Krasnyy vyborzhets" Plant produces almost half of the nonferrous metal put out by the plant. Hand operations in finishing work are completely done away with, and finishing machines are now used for this work. In addition, the shop also has heavy-duty hydraulic presses, finishing and cutting machines, and other modern equipment. Labor productivity in one year increased 70 percent.

Leningradskaya Pravda, No 97, 23 Apr 50

The strip-rolling shop of the "Krasnyy vyborzhets" Plant produces copper and brass strips, obtaining 60-77 kilograms of strip per 100 kilograms of stock, depending on the size and type of strip. Production leaders in the shop have decided to exceed these old norms, and have made efforts to effect greater economy of materials. In the last quarter, the shop worked for 6 days on saved materials. The shop plans to work at least 2 days per month on saved materials.

Trud, No 98, 25 Apr 50

K. Ye. Platanov, stakhanovite at the "Krasnyy vyborzhets" Plant, recently gave a lecture on a new method of laying a furnace for smelting nonferrous metals before the metallurgical faculty of the Leningrad Mining Institute. Platanov was assisted in his work of discovering the new furnace-laying method by scientists of the institute.

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